# **City of Charleston Awards**

# **AWARDS 2012**

## Top U.S. Destinations on the Rise for 2012

Charleston ranked #10 <u>TripAdvisor</u> – January 2012

# **AWARDS 2011**

## **Best-Performing Cities 2011**

Charleston-North Charleston MAS ranked #11 U.S. market for jobs, economic growth *Milken Institute – December* 2011

## **America's Best Shopping Streets**

King Street named among top 10 shopping streets in U.S. <u>U.S. News and World Report</u> – November 2011

### Top "Brain Gainer"

Charleston Metro area ranked #1 for biggest growth over past decade in percentage of adults with college degrees

Wall Street Journal – October 2011

### **Top American Travel Destination**

Charleston, SC Ranked #1 Condé-Naste – October 2011

#### **World's Best Cities**

Charleston, SC Ranked #3 City for travel in the world *CNNGo - October 2011* 

### Best Honeymoon Destinations in the US

Charleston ranked #8
<u>U.S. News and World Report</u> - 2011

### America's Most Beautiful Neighborhoods

Charleston's South of Broad area #5 Travel + Leisure - 2011

#### The 10 Best Cities For Weekend Vacations

Charleston Ranked #5 <u>Forbes</u> – October 2011

## Top "Surprisingly Romantic City"

Charleston, SC Ranked #1 Yahoo.com Wanderlust- 2011

#### 2011 World's Best Cities

Charleston ranked #2 in the United States and Canada region <a href="https://doi.org/10.2011/journal.com/">Travel + Leisure</a> - 2011

#### 50 Best Master-Planned Communities in the United States

Daniel Island listed among the 50 Best Master-Planned Communities in the United States *Where to Retire Magazine -* 2011

### Top 10 Food & Wine Destinations in the U.S.

Charleston ranked #4

TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice Destinations Awards - 2011

## **AWARDS 2010**

## **Top American Destination**

Charleston, SC Named No. 2 for the 18<sup>th</sup> year behind San Francisco, CA *Condé-Naste – October 2010* 

### Travel + Leisure's 2010 America's Favorite Cities

Out of 35 cities, Charleston ranked #1 in several categories:

**#1 Best Shopping** 

#1 Best Antique stores

#1 Most Noteworthy neighborhoods

#1 Friendliest People

#1 Most Attractive People

#1 Best B&Bs/Inns

#1 Most Stylish boutique hotels

Travel + Leisure - November 2010

### **Best Places for Holiday Travel**

Charleston named one of the best places for holiday travel *Travel* + *Leisure* – *October* 2010

#### **Best Places to Retire in the South**

Charleston named one of the best places to retire in the South *Wall Street Journal – October* 2010

### 2010 Best Tennis Town

Charleston Ranked #1 in the Nation

## 10 Great Places for History Buffs to Retire

Among Nation's Top 10 U.S. News & World Report - September 2010

#### 2010 World's Best Cities

Charleston ranked #3 in the United States and Canada region <a href="Travel + Leisure">Travel + Leisure</a> 2010

## Top 10 Food & Wine Destinations in the World

Charleston ranked #3
TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice Destinations Awards - 2010

## Top 50 Best Cities in which to do business

Out of 101 cities, Charleston ranked 47 <u>MarketWatch</u> – January 2010

# **AWARDS 2009**

## **Top 10 Memorial Day Travel Destinations**

Charleston ranked #5
#4 Gatlinburg, TN
#5 Charleston, SC
#6 Austin, TX
Southern Living Magazine - 2009

### **Best Cities For Technology Jobs**

Among Nations Top 10 *Forbes – 2009* 

### National WELCOA Well Workplace Gold designation

Charleston awarded the national WELCOA Well Workplace Gold designation WELCOA - 2009

### **Top Ten Destinations of Christmas Vacation**

Charleston ranked #3
Away.com – December 2009

### **World's Smartest Cities**

Charleston Ranked #8 for strong infrastructure, attractive economy and savvy urban planning

- 1. Singapore
- 2. Hong Kong

- 3. Curitiba, Brazil
- 4. Monterrey, Mexico
- 5. Amsterdam
- 6. Seattle
- 7. Houston
- 8. Charleston
- 9. Huntsville, AL
- 10. Calgary, Alberta

Forbes - December 2009

## "Charleston Ranked a 'Top City"

Lonely Plant, an international tourism guide, has named Charleston one of the "Top Cities to go to in 2010."

Lonely Planet - November 2009

## **Top American Destination**

Charleston, SC Named No. 2 for the 17<sup>th</sup> year behind San Francisco, CA *Condé-Naste – October* 2009

#### **Preservation Honor Award**

Charleston awarded the Preservation Honor Award from The National Trust for Historic Preservation

The National Trust for Historic Preservation - October 2009

### Travel + Leisure's 2009 America's Favorite Cities

Charleston ranked #3 - Most Attractive People

- 1. Miami
- 2. San Diego
- 3. Charleston
- 4. Los Angeles
- 5. Austin

Charleston ranked #3 - Friendliest People

- 1. Nashville
- 2. New Orleans
- 3. Charleston
- 4. Austin
- 5. Minneapolis/St. Paul

Charleston ranked #5 - Most Stylish People

- 1. New York
- 2. Miami
- 3. San Francisco

- 4. Los Angeles
- 5. Charleston

Charleston ranked #4 - Best Historical Sites/Monuments

- 1. Washington, D.C.
- 2. Boston
- 3. Philadelphia
- 4. Charleston
- 5. San Antonio

Charleston ranked #1 - Best B&Bs/Inns

- 1. Charleston
- 2. New Orleans
- 3. Santa Fe
- 4. Portland, Oregon
- 5. Providence

Charleston ranked #4 - Best Stylish, Boutique Hotels

- 1. New Orleans
- 2. Miami
- 3. San Francisco
- 4. Charleston
- 5. Chicago

Charleston ranked #2 - Best for a Romantic Escape

- 1. Honolulu
- 2. Charleston
- 3. San Francisco
- 4. New Orleans
- 5. Santa Fe

Charleston ranked #1 - Holiday Travel - Thanksgiving

- 1. Charleston
- 2. Orlando
- 3. Phoenix/Scottsdale
- 4. Kansas City
- 5. San Antonio

Charleston ranked #3 - Relaxing Retreat

- 1. Honolulu
- 2. Santa Fe
- 3. Charleston
- 4. Phoenix/Scottsdale

# 5. San Diego

## Charleston ranked #2 - Antique and Vintage Shops

- 1. New Orleans
- 2. Charleston
- 3. New York
- 4. Santa Fe
- 5. San Francisco

### Charleston ranked #5 - Farmers' Markets

- 1. Seattle
- 2. Portland, Oregon
- 3. New Orleans
- 4. Cleveland
- 5. Charleston

# Charleston ranked #2 - Noteworthy Neighborhoods

- 1. San Francisco
- 2. Charleston
- 3. New Orleans
- 4. Boston
- 5. New York

# Charleston ranked #3 - Safety

- 1. Portland, Oregon
- 2. Minneapolis/St. Paul
- 3. Charleston
- 4. Austin
- 5. Santa Fe

## Charleston ranked #2 - Peace and Quiet

- 1. Santa Fe
- 2. Charleston
- 3. Honolulu
- 4. San Diego
- 5. Portland, Oregon

### Charleston ranked #4 - Holiday Travel - Spring Break

- 1. New Orleans
- 2. Miami
- 3. San Diego
- 4. Charleston
- 5. Las Vegas

#### **Best Small Towns**

Charleston Ranked one of the 10 best small "Adventure Burbs"

- 1. Salida, Colorado
- 2. Leavenworth, Washington
- 3. Charleston, South Carolina
- 4. Alpine, Texas

Outside Magazine - August 2009

## Travel + Leisure Magazine's World's Best Poll

Charleston ranked #4 in Travel + Leisure magazine's World's Best Awards 2009 readers' survey

Travel + Leisure magazine - July 2009

## Progressive Environmental Stewardship & Sustainable Growth

Charleston ranked 11th among 405 small cities (pop. 50,000-99,999) *Smarter Cities – July* 2009

### Most Livable Cities in America

Charleston Receives First Place Honors <u>US Conference of Mayors</u> – June 2009

# **Next Cities: Best Places to Live & Work for Young Professionals**

Charleston 2nd among cities with 100,000 to 200,000 population *Next Generation Consulting – June* 2009

## **Top 25 Arts Destinations**

In the Mid-Size Cities category Charleston ranked #6 *AmericanStyle – April* 2009

## **Best Place for Start-Ups**

Mount Pleasant cited as best city in South Carolina *Business Week – April* 2009

# **America's Strongest Housing Markets**

Charleston ranked among the top 25 *Forbes - January* 2009

# **AWARDS 2008**

### Readers' Choice Award Winners

Charleston ranked #2 for Best Neighborhood for Shopping:

- 1. Buckhead, Atlanta, GA
- 2. King street, Charleston, SC

#### Charleston Ranked #4 for Best Festival or Fair

- 1. State Fair of Texas, <u>Dallas</u> September 25-October 18
- 2. North Carolina State Fair, Raleigh October 15-25
- 3. New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, April 24-26 and April 30-May 3
- 4. Spoleto Festival USA, Charleston, SC May 22-June 7
- 5. Florida Strawberry Festival, Plant City, February 26-March 8
- 6. Yellow Daisy Festival, Stone Mountain, GA

### Charleston ranked #1 for Best Southern City

- 1. Charleston, South Carolina
- 2. Savannah, Georgia
- 3. Atlanta, Georgia

#### Charleston Place Hotel ranked #5 for Best Hotel

- 1. The Grove Park Inn Resort & Spa, Asheville, North Carolina
- 2. Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center, Nashville, Tennessee
- 3. The Peabody Memphis, Tennessee
- 4. Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club, & Spa, Point Clear, Alabama
- 5. Charleston Place, Charleston, South Carolina

### Charleston ranked #10 for Best Family Destination

- 1. Orlando/Walt Disney World Orlando, Florida
- 2. Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
- 3. Destin, Florida
- 4. Gulf Shores/Orange Beach, Alabama
- 5. Gatlinburg/Pigeon Forge, Tennessee
- 6. Hilton Head Island, South Carolina
- 7. Williamsburg, Virginia
- 8. San Antonio, Texas
- 9. Branson, Missouri
- 10. Charleston, South Carolina

Southern Living Magazine - 2008

# **Top American Destination**

Charleston, SC Named No. 2 Condé-Naste – October 2008

## 2008 Best Performing Cities: Where America's Jobs Are Created

10th among mid-sized metros *Milliken Institute – September* 2008

## The Best Cities for Doing Business

Charleston ranked 6th out of the Top 30 Midsize Cities *Inc.com - August 2008* 

### 50 Next Great Adventure Towns

Charleston named one of "the 50 next great adventure towns" *National Geographic Adventure magazine - August 2008* 

## Top 10 Cities U.S. and Canada

Charleston listed among the 10 best destinations *Travel + Leisure - July 2008* 

### **Top Arts Destinations**

Charleston #6 the nation's mid-size cities *American Style magazine - June* 2008

# **Great Public Spaces in America**

Waterfront Park, Charleston American Planning Association- October 2008